ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for applying a metal coating to graphite structural members, in which a galvanic metal layer is deposited after said graphite structural members have been anodically etched in an alkaline etchant. The metal coating can serve as a basis for solder connections and can be employed for creating electrical contacts or for mechanically fixing the graphite structural member or it can fulfil other demands on the surface (e.g. abrasion resistance).